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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/583,654

11/07/2006

Fabrice Madigou

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05/08/2008

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EXAMINER

CHERIYAN JR, THOMAS K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3714

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/08/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/583,654	Applicant(s) MADIGOU, FABRICE	
	Examiner THOMAS K. CHERIYAN JR	Art Unit 3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 and 8 is objected to because of the following informalities:
“characterised” is misspelled and be corrected as “characterized”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 3, 6, 7, 8 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only and/or cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Appropriate action is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 & 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Tulley et al (US 6719631 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Tulley discloses a personal interface portable device for electronic card games, characterized in that it includes a thin display screen **(Tulley, Figure 12)**, a tactile detection faceplate superimposed on the screen **(Tulley, Figure 12 and Column 7, Lines 38-42)**, control circuits for acting on a game display using the screen in response to the actions detected by the detection faceplate **(Inherent. The touch screen acts as an input and therefore would allow a player to use the game display and touch screen on top of that display as an input method which would receive actions by the player detected on detection faceplate or screen.)**, and an interface with a central system that can execute electronic games **(Inherent, Tulley, Figure 2)**.

Regarding claim 2, Tulley discloses that the display screen and the faceplate have a concavity that turns, in use, towards the user **(Tulley, Figure 12 shows the portable electronic device that clearly faces towards the user and it should be noted that the display screen being concave or convex would not affect a person viewing the display.)**.

Regarding claim 3, Tulley discloses the display screen and the detection faceplate are mounted on a handle **(Tulley, Figure 12 shows that the display/touch screen is mounted in a case. The case inherently acts as a handle since the user needs to hold onto the case in order to interact with the display.)**.

Regarding claim 4, Tulley discloses the handle houses the interface control circuits **(Inherent)**.

Regarding claim 5, Tulley discloses the handle is equipped with a validation button of a choice made in a tactile manner **(Tulley, Figure 12, Buttons 242 shows the casing of the display containing a plurality of buttons. It would be obvious to label or program one of the buttons as a "validation button".)**.

Regarding claim 6, Tulley discloses the display screen and the tactile faceplate have a general circular sector shape contour **(Tulley, Figure 12 clearly shows the display having a general circular sector shape contour.)**.

Regarding claim 7, Tulley discloses the display screen and the tactile faceplate have a general rectangular shape contour **(Tulley, Figure 12 clearly shows the display having a general rectangular shape contour)**.

Regarding claim 8, Tulley discloses the electronic game system that can execute electronic card games, characterized in that it includes:

- a central system that comprises a display screen that can represent a board game board **(It would be obvious that the display screen as taught by Tulley can display a board game board)**, and
- a plurality of user interfaces devices, linked to a central system **(Tulley, Figure 1 shows a plurality of user interface devices linked to a central system labeled as "Controller 300".)**.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas K. Cheriyan whose telephone number is 571-270-3225. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30AM-5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on 571-272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robert E Pezzuto/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714